

~~SECRET~~5. Just Policy
General
55November 25th, 1959COCOM Document No. 3715.29/1BCOORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONITEM 1529 - ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENTS5th and 17th November, 1959

Present: Belgium (Luxembourg), Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM 3700.1, .2, .3 and .5, 3715.00/1, W.P.1529/1 and Corrigendum, W.P.1529/2.

1. Item 1529 was given careful study both by the Sub-Committee and by the Working Group entrusted with the task of examining the various redefinition proposals.

2. The current definition was amended as follows:

Heading The heading of this item, which all Delegations considered too indefinite, was amended to read as shown below, with the understanding that this text implied no limitation on where this equipment would be used.

"Electronic measuring, testing or calibrating instruments, having one or more of the following characteristics:"

Part (a) The United Kingdom proposal to raise the frequency cut-off to 500 Mc/s was accepted by all Delegations.

Remarks: The GERMAN Delegation had proposed that this cut-off be raised to 1,000 Mc/s and had pointed out that military applications were more numerous in the frequency band going from 300 to 500 Mc/s than in the band from 500 to 960 Mc/s, which chiefly concerned television; they stressed moreover that the technology was precisely the same for equipment operating at 300 Mc/s as for that operating at 1,000 Mc/s.

The FRENCH Delegation stated that they could accept the 1,000 Mc/s cut-off if a precise definition were given of the types of civilian equipment normally used for television purposes.

The UNITED KINGDOM Delegation, while acknowledging the principally military uses of the frequencies below 300 Mc/s, considered, like the United States Delegation, that the 500 Mc/s cut-off was adequate to free general-purpose equipment.

The UNITED STATES Delegation pointed out that for television purposes the Bloc did not use a range higher than 500 Mc/s, and that the reason the Delegation were anxious to retain under embargo equipment operating at higher frequencies was that it could be diverted to strategic ends.

Quoting the case of Poland and the Soviet zone of Germany, the GERMAN Delegate queried his United States colleague's statement.

The ITALIAN Delegation thereupon proposed as a compromise that equipment operating at frequencies between 500 Mc/s and 1,000 Mc/s should be exportable in reasonable quantities when there was no doubt that it constituted television equipment and on condition that the Committee be informed immediately.

~~SECRET~~

S E C R E T

- 2 -

COCOM Document No. 3715.29/1B

Note Agreement was finally reached on the basis of a frequency cut-off of 600 Mc/s. The Sub-Committee agreed to add a Note to sub-item (a) to the effect proposed by the Italian Delegation.

Part (b) The FRENCH Delegate stated that the only object of the French proposal to transfer part (b) to Item 1593 had been to facilitate the task of those responsible for administering the control system. The UNITED STATES Delegate said that he could accept the French proposal.

The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate said that his Government's proposal to change the definition of the frequency standards took into account the most recent developments in the electronic field. It made it possible to free some types of old equipment, while retaining under embargo the most specialised and most recent types, for example those employing resonance phenomena.

The GERMAN Delegate agreed to the United Kingdom proposal. He asked, however, what should be understood by the word "accuracy". The FRENCH Delegate replied that "accuracy" could be interpreted in French as meaning "garde temps" (timekeeping capacity).

The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that the progress achieved by the Western world ought not to have as its sequel the automatic release of older types, with no indication that they would be put to civilian uses in the Bloc.

The NETHERLANDS Delegate stated that the cut-off proposed by the United Kingdom for sub-item (b)(i) was too high. He believed that a cut-off of 1 part in 10^8 was adequate both for (b)(i) and (b)(ii).

Now

Part (c) The UNITED STATES Delegation proposed the addition of a new sub-item (c) to cover testing instruments which operated over a given range of temperatures.

The FRENCH AND GERMAN Delegates did not object to the addition of this sub-item, but felt that the cut-off of -20°C proposed by the United States was too restrictive. The Netherlands Delegate proposed the adoption of the same temperature cut-off as for Item 1501, i.e. -40°C .

The SUB-COMMITTEE agreed to a cut-off of -25°C , the United States Delegate having accepted the following change of wording for the beginning of the sub-item: "Testing instruments rated to maintain their specified operating data when operating over ... etc."

3. The new definition of Item 1529, as set out below, was accepted ad referendum by all Delegations:

"Electronic measuring, testing or calibrating instruments, having one or more of the following characteristics:

(a) Those designed for use at frequencies in excess of 500 Mc/s;

NOTE: Governments may permit as administrative exceptions exports of reasonable quantities of measuring, testing or calibrating instruments of types and series having been in normal use for television purposes for at least two years, operating at frequencies up to 600 Mc/s, if there is reasonable proof that these instruments are destined to be used for television work. Such exceptions should be reported in the monthly statistics.

S E C R E T

- 3 -

COCOM Document No. 3713.29/1B

- (b) (i) Frequency measuring equipment or frequency standards designed for other than ground laboratory use with an accuracy better than 1 part in 10^7 ;
- (ii) Ground laboratory frequency standards or frequency measuring equipment incorporating frequency standards with a stability over 24 hours of 1 part in 10^9 or better;
- (c) Testing instruments rated to maintain their specified operating data when operating over a range of ambient temperatures extending from below -25°C to above $+55^{\circ}\text{C}$.

4. On the 23rd November, the GERMAN Delegation stated their final acceptance of the text of the new definition.

CONCLUSION: The COMMITTEE agreed to resume study of this item during the second round of discussion only if the ad referendum agreement were not confirmed in the meantime.

S E C R E T